

NJIT

New Jersey's Science &
Technology University

THE EDGE IN KNOWLEDGE

CS 280
Programming Language
Concepts

<map>

<map>

- #include <map>
- A dictionary that associates a value of one type with a value of another type
- Declaration tells the types of the items being connected
- First value is the key, second value is what the key is mapped to
- The keys in the map are unique

<map>

- Example:

```
map<string, string> myMap;
```
- Creates an object that maps one string to another
- Member functions are provided to search and retrieve items, find items, etc
- The [] is overloaded: myMap[key] gives the value from the map associated with the key
- Note: using operator[] creates an entry if one does not exist
- Note: to remove an entry you need to use the erase() method

Searching

- Because operator `[]` creates an entry you cannot say something like

```
if( myMap[key] == "" )
```
- That would create an entry if one did not exist (and it would always be true!)

- Use `find()` and compare the result to `end()`

```
if( myMap.find(key) == myMap.end() )  
    //key not in the map
```

Example map use

```
map<string,int> counters;  
string word;  
  
while( cin >> word )  
    counters[word]++;  
    // if counters[...] doesn't exist, it gets created!  
  
// at the end of this loop, counters contains an entry  
// for each word in input.  
// The key is the word.  
// The value is count of # of times the word appeared
```

Looking at the entire map

```
map<string,int>::iterator it;

for( it = counters.begin();
      it != counters.end(); it++ )
    cout << it->first << ":" << it->second << endl;
```

Another mechanism

```
map<int,string> myMap;
// ...

for( const pair<int,string>& i : myMap ){
    cout << i.first << ":"
          << i.second << endl;
}

// note the map manages a pair<> of items
```

A word about map iterators

- The iterator cycles through the map in “key order”
- So if I want something sorted by key... I can put things into the map and just use an iterator... presto, sorted by key!

More iterating

- Iterating goes in sorted order; you can go in reverse order by swapping the sense of end and begin, decrementing instead of incrementing, and playing with the edge cases
- OR you can use a reverse iterator

Same result...

```
for(map<int,int>::iterator it = xx.end();
    it-- != xx.begin(); /* */ )
    cout << it->first << ":" << it->second << endl;

for(map<int,int>::reverse_iterator it = xx.rbegin();
    it != xx.rend(); it++)
    cout << it->first << ":" << it->second << endl;
```

Use maps to sort maps

- If I have a map<A,B> and I want to sort it by B, can I just create a map<B,A> and iterate over it?

```
map<string,int>counters;
map<int,string>bycount;
```

```
map<string,int>::iterator it;
for(it = counters.begin(); it != counters.end(); it++ )
    bycount[ it->second ] = it->first;
```

*// Problem, though... the keys must be unique...
what if there are two keys in "counters" with
the same value??*

Solution, slightly different map...

- Keep a vector of values with the same key

```
map<string,int> counters;
map<int,vector<string>> bycount;

map<string,int>::iterator it;
for(it=counters.begin(); it != counters.end(); it++)
    bycount[it->second].push_back(it->first);
    // adds to vector

map<int,vector<string>>::iterator sit;
for(sit=bycount.begin(); sit != bycount.end(); sit++) {
    cout << "Count value " << sit->first;
    int siz = sit->second.size(); // read through the
    vector
        for(int i=0; i<siz; i++)
            cout << sit->second[i];
}
```

Other uses

- A map<string,int> can be used to count the number of times a string was seen
- A map<string,bool> can be used to remember if a particular string was seen or not

